in the Arsenal prepared, so that they may be fitted for Use, as soon as possible — they will certainly be of great Service, when the Ships lie before the Town — It will be impossible to preserve any of the Vessels in Harbour, if the Enemy incline to destroy them — or, if they can at this Time, an Object of the greatest Consequence, but, it will be of great Advantage, to us, if we can capture the Enemy's Ships in Cooper-River, & prevent their supporting the Army, & cooperating with them, in Ashley-River — I shall be ready (& if you think so, with you's pleasure to give orders) to take every

Gov.r Rutledge
March 26

Vessels, fit & necessary for
the purpose, & sent by, Duty,
at the place where Capt
Bull shall be duly warned, to ap
pear personally to Rep.t & Endorse
Entrance with Ashley River
I am Dr Sir
Your Hble Servt
J. Rutledge

RW 990(1)

RW 990(2) NS. Ch. C. 5, 4